

5 WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A wheelchair control sensor for controlling a powered wheelchair for a user who is incapable of using their hands, comprising:

two casings each including an internal space having an inclined surface;

10 two force sensitive resistor (FSR) sensors attached to the inclined surfaces of the casings or surfaces opposite to the inclined surfaces;

pressing balls to press the FRS sensors while being moved through the internal spaces of the casings by external forces;

15 two shoulder straps for providing the external forces to the pressing balls according to movements of the user's shoulders; and

a waist belt worn on an upper body of the user with the two casings spaced apart from each other at a certain interval.

20 2. The wheelchair control sensor as set forth in claim 1, wherein each of the inclined surfaces has a uniform width and inclines towards the user's shoulder.

3. The wheelchair control sensor as set forth in claim 1, wherein each of the shoulder straps is connected to the pressing ball at a first end thereof and secured to the waist belt at a second end thereof.

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4. A wheelchair drive control apparatus for receiving a detection signal from a wheelchair control sensor, which controls a powered wheelchair for spinal cord-injured persons using movement of shoulders, and controlling operation of wheels of the powered wheelchair, the wheelchair control sensor comprising:

30 two casings each including an internal space having an inclined surface;

two force sensitive resistor (FSR) sensors attached to the inclined surfaces of the casings or surfaces opposite to the inclined surfaces;

pressing balls to press the FRS sensors while being moved through the internal

5 spaces of the casings by external forces;

two shoulder straps for providing the external forces to the pressing balls according to movements of the user's shoulders; and

a waist belt worn on an upper body of the user with the two casings spaced apart from each other at a certain interval.